



Maine Farmer.

HOMAN & BADGER, Publishers.
S. L. BOARDMAN, Agricultural Editor.
Our Home, our Country and our Brother Man.

Forthcoming Meetings.

MAINE FARMERS' ASSOCIATION, at the City Hall, Portland, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Jan. 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th, 1874.

MAINE FARMERS' ASSOCIATION, Third Exhibition, at City Hall, Bangor, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 16th, 17th and 18th.

Exhibitors and Committees.

While the results of the recent exhibitions are fresh in the minds of our readers, it may not be out of place to refer to some of the relations between the exhibitor and the judges, as developed at our fair, State and local, a wide spread feeling of dissatisfaction with the awards of judges. This is the fact not only at our town and county, but at our State, industrial and national exhibitions. At our town fairs there is nothing awarded but the first, second or third preference, up to the Grand Gold Medal of Honor of the National Exposition, there is dissatisfaction because somebody has been awarded a premium which somebody else thinks should have been given. Nor are these dissatisfaction kept private—they are openly talked about, and in many instances are the cause of much newspaper discussion. They are, moreover, not limited to our own State, but occur throughout the country from East to West. We have before us at this writing, a letter from a prominent Massachusetts breeder to a gentleman in our own State, in which he says that the reason his animal did not receive the prize at the recent New England Fair, was because he (the exhibitor) was not up there a few days before the exhibition, "to look out for his interests." As though a certain amount of engrossing before hand, was necessary to secure the award of a prize from a committee! In another private letter from a distinguished breeder in Maine, he says, speaking of this matter: "I think all judges should be from a distance, and paid for their services."

These and many similar instances brought to our notice personally or by letter, last year and this, warrant us in saying that the evil is a serious one, and one demanding the attention of those who have the management of societies, and the great public who are more particularly interested. As now managed, the names of committees in the several classes are announced long before the time of holding the fair. This gives those who have the disposition, an opportunity to labor with the committee, and by some means secure from them an assurance of their favor. How can a man properly approach the duties of his position as a judge, in any class, if he is pledged before hand to vote for a certain animal or article without knowing what it is to be brought into competition? Is not the position of such a man one which should receive the condemnation of the Trustees of any Society, and should not this fact, know him from serving on such committee?

There is now-days a great desire to secure, by hook or crook, the prizes offered by agricultural and industrial Societies. Breeders of live stock, dealers and manufacturers of implements and machines, commercial florists and nurseries, and in fact the large proportion of our exhibitors, are clamorous for premiums. They resort to any means almost, to obtain them; and, yet after all, how much are they worth? An exhibitor of implements will fudge with a committee for hours to secure a diploma, which is of very little value; when by an earnest attention to his business—for exhibiting is a business, and a means of increasing business—he could make more sales in a single day, than his diploma, if awarded, could make for him in a whole year. In short it seems to us that it is time managers of Societies ascertain to what these men are valuing their decisions as to personal ends. A man who will descend to these means to carry his own points, should be regarded as unworthy of taking part in the management of such exhibitions. Finally, we lay down these general propositions in regard to the regulation of fairs and the appointment of judges, to some of which we may possibly refer at another time:

No. Director of a fair or exhibition shall be a competitor in any class.

2d. Committees shall be secured from a neighboring town, county or State, and paid for their services.

3d. The names of committees shall not, in any case be known to any of the Directors, until after the awards have been made public.

Department of Agriculture.

We acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture, for the year 1872, from Hon. Fred'k. W. Bates. It consists of over 500 pages, and is embellished by thirteen plates and a large number of smaller illustrations. The first two hundred pages are occupied with the report of the several divisions of the Department, the statistician, chemist, botanist and entomologist. The statistician reports the crops of 1872, with the condition of farm stock, our agricultural exports, and prices of farm crops for the year, and the reports of the live stock markets of our country. The facts and figures embodied in this portion of the volume are of great value, and may be studied with profit by every farmer. The report of the chemist embraces an abstract of his investigations on natural fertilizers, on the wastes of cities and large towns and on the manufacture of beet sugar. The report of the entomologist Mr. Townsend Glover, is interesting and valuable, but that the botanist presents little that is new or valuable. We note some of the more important of the other articles making up the volume. Microscopic Investigation, by Thomas Taylor, Influenza in Horses, by Prof. James Law of Cornell University. Fish Culture by Seth Greene. A Hundred Years' Progress, by Chas. L. Flint. Fertilizer on the Plains, by Louis Bogert. The remainder of the volume consists of statements on the progress of industrial education, recent publications, digests of State agricultural reports, tests of seeds from the Department, farm experiments &c. The volume is one embracing much useful and important information, and we trust the establishment of the franking privilege will not prevent its general circulation among our reading, brain-working farmers.

Protection against Fire.

During a recent visit to Watertown, Mass., we had the pleasure of a brief call upon Mr. Joseph Bird, whose home is near the Mt. Auburn station, and who is the author of a most valuable and practical book on the means of extinguishing fires, lately published by Messrs. Hurd & Houghton of New York. This gentleman has devoted a lifetime of study and experiment to the subject, and in the volume just mentioned—120 pages, of nearly 300 pages—gives the results of his experience and observation, together with practical suggestions on the security of life and property. The book is as readable as a story, and so entertained us were by its perusal that it was literally finished at a sitting—that sitting being a railroad ride of over one hundred miles. Mr. Bird condemns the present system of fighting a large fire by fire lumbering and expensive forces of engines and other appliances; and believes in the use of prevention which is said to be better than a pound of cure; the prevention being a large pail of water and a small hand force pump, always ready, with a small hand hawthorn for cutting and breaking through partitions to get at concealed fires between rooms, closets &c. A large amount of testimony to the value of such a fire department as this, when operated by a cool head and steady hand, is given in the book, and numerous illustrations cited to show the good work in extinguishing fires performed by women and children even, who have dashed water upon small fires, instead of running to get an alarm to the Fire Department. The subject is deserving of careful attention by all, especially by farmers who from the nature of the case must live somewhat isolated; and to them, and in fact to authorities of small towns and villages too limited to maintain a Fire Department, we commend Mr. Bird's thoughtful and excellent book.

Use of Salt.

Salt is one of the most necessary condiments in human food. It has always been eagerly sought after by both man and beast, and is in use from the earliest times. So necessary is it for man, that when removed from the earth, he is unable to live without it. The town teams from Bridgton and Harrison composed of 16 and 15 yokes respectively, Hurd received the first premium. The exhibition of farm products, dairy work, and the like, of which was shown by K. White of Harrison, attracted much attention. A fine bull 15 months old purchased by Mr. Whitney last spring of Dr. Bontelle of Waterville for the further improvement of his herd, was the most valuable animal in the exhibition. The cattle show was probably never better than last year, the animals being finer and more numerous than ever. The cattle of the town teams from Bridgton and Harrison were the best, and the fine team of 16 yokes was the only one of the two teams from Harrison which was much less than it would otherwise have been.

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The Maine Farmer: An Agricultural and Family Newspaper.

at first anticipated. Operations were commenced June 25th, and closed August 30th, it is consequence of the severe drought which caused the flow of milk to be very small. At no time over the past year was there a market for the milk of cows, and cost about \$20. The milk of our animals, however, was sold for a sum which would have cost but little more to run the factory on the milk of from two to three hundred cows. As an evidence of the success of the factory, Capt. E. B. Pease, has returned from New York. While absent he attended some of the meetings of the Evangelical Alliance and had an opportunity of seeing Stokes.—A letter was mailed at the Post Office in this city Tuesday, stamped to the agents of the Factory company, for cheese for the market, with a demand for the milk of this number of cows for a period of eight weeks.

In response to a query of Mr. A. P. Pulsifer of the Executive Council, gave some account of the cheese factory at Mechanic Falls. The building was put up this spring, which make the season short, as the market did not go into operation until the 1st of July. The cost of the factory and machinery was \$2,500. The company paid 12 cents per gallon for milk delivered at the factory; and they had an experienced cheese maker from New York to superintend operations, and the use of 100 cows fed to cows, they would be enabled to extend the season of making cheese to about the middle of October. At present they are making one pound of cheese from eight pounds of milk.

The discussion was continued by several gentlemen until the hour of adjournment.

Maine Farmer

Augusta, October 18, 1873.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.
\$4.00 in advance, or \$2.00 1/2 paid within
Three Months of the date of Subscription.

All payments made by subscribers will be credited on the next issue attached to their name. The printer will receive payment when subscriber's name will show the time to which he has previously sent, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

Collectors' Notices
Mr. V. D. Adams will visit Piscataquis County in October.
Mr. C. S. Atkinson will receive the counties of Aroostook and Oxford during the month of November.
Our Agent, Mr. S. N. Tamm, will call upon subscribers in Hancock County, during the month of October.

The American Jews.

Not long ago a convention of the Jews who reside in the South and West, was held in Cincinnati, having for its principle object the establishment of a Theological Seminary for the education of the Hebrew priesthood. Anything pertaining to this remarkable people, whose history is so intimately connected with Divine revelation, cannot fail of being a matter of general interest. Since the final destruction of the holy city, more than eighteen hundred years ago, the Jews have been persecuted as no other people ever were; have been driven from country to country; plundered and robbed with impunity by avaricious kings and nobles, but through all these long centuries of extortion and oppression, they have remained true to the traditions of their fathers which forbade them to intermarry or commingle with people of a different nationality.

In the United States where religious freedom is a leading feature of the organic law, the Jews have found such a release from persecution as they have never before enjoyed since their heritage was wrested from them by an invading foe and they became scattered upon the face of the earth.

Our American institutions are having a somewhat modifying effect even upon the most conservative of all our adopted citizens, the Jews, and in their recent convention, nothing was said about a restoration to their former power and greatness in the city and country of their fathers, and nothing against other forms of religious faith. The law of Moses especially the ten commandments was exalted as the highest law of human life, and all idea of atonement save by one's own efforts, was repudiated. In this latter respect they do not essentially differ from some of the other leading religious denominations of the country. All their speeches were temperate and conciliatory, indicating pride in the government of the country of their adoption and an affection for the Republic. In their measures they professed only a desire to diffuse more light and knowledge among their own people without antagonizing any other, to vindicate their denomination and foster esteem and love among themselves for their ancient race and religious faith.

The Jews have no church organization nor associated church government, each congregation being distinct and independent by itself. Great care therefore seemed to be taken in the proceedings of this convention to guard against any idea of association, save upon the special subject which called them together. But the fact that this and other similar conventions have been held shows that the exigencies of the times have caused the Hebrews to adopt the same methods employed by other denominations for the erection of seminaries of learning, and that the drift is unconsciously toward associated action and effort. In several of our religious denominations there is hardly such a thing as an independent society, known, the government being given up to conventions, and this is regarded as essential to the welfare of the church. Catholicism has been modified since it was introduced into this country, so as to be adapted to Republican institutions, and though in their speeches and action in the late Jewish convention the main drift seemed to be an adhesion to their ancient faith, there were several things that showed that this church too, has to a certain extent, become Americanized.

Only a few years ago this church was one of the weakest and feeblest in America. Its principle strength now is found in the cities and larger towns and in New York and several other cities, the denomination has become rich and powerful. In New York city they have over thirty synagogues, and in Philadelphia they have seven or eight, and in New York they have periodic meetings which are exponents of their creed, benevolent and charitable institutions, and all the machinery of a large and powerful organization, capable of defending and perpetuating itself.

In their wanderings in other countries the Jewish people have always expressed a firm belief in their restoration to the inheritance of their fathers, and so have always held aloft from any alliance or communion with the people among whom they lived. But the American Jews appear to have given up all ideas of restoration and are merging into the common mass of American citizens. They organize in this country, not as a race, but as a religious body whose only desire seems to be to preserve their ancient forms of faith, pure and unadulterated. As the Jews enjoy privileges in this country which are accorded them in no other, tending as they do upon an equality with all other citizens, it seems quite probable that the remains of the race which are scattered in all lands, may be attracted to our shores. As a rule the Jews are better educated than the great mass of our emigrant population, and every one who comes here has influence to induce others to come and the consequence is a rapid increase of these people within the past few years.

The Hebrews will be suggested by some that they will eventually amalgamate with the Unitarians and form a powerful church organization, but this is only a wild and improbable conjecture. Unitarians, the Jews are always been, but to abandon their exclusiveness of race is something which will

not be likely to occur for a long time to come. There are progressives and conservatives among the two opposing forces are ever arrayed against each other, but the future alone can determine what will be wrought out for this, by so means insignificant, portion of our fellow citizens.

CITY NEWS AND GOSPEL. None but a confirmed hypocrite could have failed to enjoy the golden summer days of the past week.—J. H. Hartford, Esq., has returned from New York. While absent he attended some of the meetings of the Evangelical Alliance and had an opportunity of seeing Stokes.—A letter was mailed at the Post Office in this city Tuesday, stamped to the agents of the Factory company, for cheese for the market, with a cost of making \$130. He regarded this as very satisfactory for the milk of this number of cows for a period of eight weeks.

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